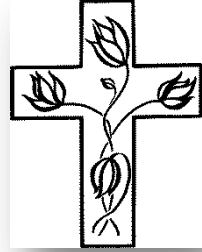


RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: EASTER DAY

SUNDAY, 9:00 A.M., APRIL 4, 2021



Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

Welcome to guests and visitors! *This pamphlet will guide your worship today. The assembly's parts are indicated by **C** and bold font. The vertical line in the left margin indicates when the assembly stands as each is able.*

About Holy Communion with Saint John Lutheran Church

"It is taught that the true body and blood of Christ are truly present under the form of bread and wine in the Lord's Supper and are distributed and received there" (Augsburg Confession, Article X)· "A person who has faith in these words, 'given for you' and 'shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,' is really worthy and well prepared." "Forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament" (The Small Catechism, Part VI)· "This church practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to Communion" (The Use of the Means of Grace, Principle 50)·

EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

A welcome and introduction to the day are made.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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After the address, a prayer is offered. The assembly responds:

☩ Amen.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

☩ I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

☩ I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

☩ I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

☩ I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

☒ I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

☒ We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The minister prays for God's blessing. The assembly responds:

☒ Amen.

ENTRANCE PSALM (139)

Lord, you have searched me out and known me;

**☒ you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,

☒ but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before

☒ and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;

☒ it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

Where can I go then from your Spirit?

☒ Where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;

☒ if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

☒ as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☩ And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God.

**☩ Alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

**☩ Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God,

**☩ for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

☩ And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING

A musical offering is made by the 180 Group (video).

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to the people: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.

☪ Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

☪ ²Let Israel now proclaim, “His mercy endures forever.”

¹⁴The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.

**☪ ¹⁵There is a sound of exultation and victory
in the tents of the righteous:**

¹⁶“The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!
The right hand of the Lord is exalted!
The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!”

☪ ¹⁷I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

¹⁸The Lord has punished me sorely,
but he did not hand me over to death.

**☪ ¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.**

²⁰“This is the gate of the Lord; he who is righteous may enter.”

**☪ ²¹I will give thanks to you, for you answered me
and have become my salvation.**

²²The same stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

☪ ²³This is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴On this day the Lord has acted;

☪ we will rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Paul writes: ¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The word of the Lord.

☪ Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

¹O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

☩ his steadfast love endures forever!

²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made;

☩ let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia. Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed.

☩ Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark.

☩ Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus' body. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The gospel of the Lord.

☩ Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow the sermon.

MUSICAL OFFERING

EASTER GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

☩ Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

☩ And also with you.

The assembly remains in place, as the service continues.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends: Hear us, O God.

☩ Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude: In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you . . . through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☩ Amen.

OFFERING PRESENTATION

Offerings are received at the door as one enters. The offering is presented for the work of Christ's Church, here and throughout the world.

OFFERTORY: 1 Cor. 5:7-8

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

☩ Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

⁷Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch.

☩ For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.

⁸Therefore, let us celebrate the festival,
not with the yeast of malice and evil,

☩ but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Alleluia, alleluia.

☩ Alleluia, alleluia.

OFFERING PRAYER

At the conclusion, the assembly responds:

☩ Amen.

The table is set.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

☪ And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

☪ We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☪ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

The minister continues, concluding: ... and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SANCTUS)

**☪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. . . .

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

☪ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life . . .

Grace our table with your presence.

☪ Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. . . .

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

☪ Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places . . .
we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**☩ Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to receive from this table.
Come, eat and be satisfied.

☩ Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG (AGNUS DEI)

**☩ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Please remain seated where you are. The communion elements will be brought to you. The host is received in your open hand. The wine will be taken by you from an individual glass. Carefully place your empty glass on the pew until end of worship.

MUSICAL OFFERING

BLESSING & POST-COMMUNION PSALM (118)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

☩ Amen.

¹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

☞ ²Let Israel now proclaim, "His mercy endures forever."

⁵I called to the Lord in my distress;
the Lord answered by setting me free.

☞ ⁸It is better to rely on the Lord than to put any trust in flesh.

¹⁰All the ungodly encompass me;
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

**☞ ¹¹They hem me in, they hem me in on every side;
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.**

¹³I was pressed so hard that I almost fell, but the Lord came to my help.

**☞ ¹⁴The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.**

¹⁵There is a sound of exultation and victory in the tents of the righteous:

**☞ ¹⁶"The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!
The right hand of the Lord is exalted!
The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"**

¹⁷I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

**☞ ²¹I will give thanks to you, for you answered me
and have become my salvation.**

²²The same stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

☞ ²³This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

**☞ ²⁵Hosanna, Lord, hosanna!
Lord, send us now success.**

²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;

**☞ ²⁸"You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you."**

²⁹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

☞ Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

At the conclusion, the assembly responds:

☞ Amen.

BLESSING

Response after the blessing:

☞ Amen.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check web-sites and printed materials for further information.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

☞ Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news.

☞ Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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On the Other Side of Fear

The very last verse of this morning's gospel comprises what scholars believe to be the original ending of Mark. As people who are used to greeting Easter morning with flowers, banners, trumpets, and boisterous hymns, this original ending to Mark, filled with fear and silence, isn't quite what we expect to find at the empty tomb! The end of Mark's Easter story can feel disquieting.

Today, we enter the story on the other side of fear and silence. Someone among those disciples did indeed proclaim the truth: Christ is risen! We can rest assured knowing that despair and death don't have the last word. Drawn into the resurrection life of Jesus, we are invited to take part in this movement of God, shouting with loud praise, "Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!"